

5) Look back to your answer to question 2. Might other people have a different perspective, viewpoint, opinion, belief, feeling, thought, etc. about your main idea? Try to think about the point you want to make from the view of others.

6) What do I need to explain to my readers? What are they unlikely to already know or understand about your topic? For example, are there any cultural meanings associated with your object/item that people from other nations wouldn't be familiar with?

7) What can I assume that my readers already know? What DON'T I need to bother explaining? (For example, you would not need to explain to college students what it means to be a freshman, sophomore, junior, senior, etc. because they very likely know this and don't need you to repeat it. Similarly, you wouldn't need to explain what "texting" is to young people while you would need to explain it carefully to a group of 90-year olds.)

8) Look at your notes and brainstorming above and try to identify what generalizations—statements expressing the main point and supporting points—you want to make in your paragraph. You will want at least three statements: a main idea (for topic sentence) and at least two sub-statements that support the topic sentence clearly and logically. In other words, write a sentence that states the point you want to make and focus on in your paragraph, and then at least two more sentences that communicate two points (sub-points) that relate to the topic sentence.